Washington State
Board of Hearing and Speech
Meeting Minutes

May 18, 2018

Board Members Present:
Hal Hunsaker, Chair; Rick Giles; Lisa Illich; Roberta Jackson; Trice Konschuh, Public Member; Ann Plotnick; Alison Vega, AuD

Board Members Absent:
Courtenay Hendricks, Vice chair; Henry Ou, MD; Kelly Siebecke

Staff Present
Trina Crawford, Executive Director; Kim-Boi Shadduck, Program Manager; Sandie Pearson, Program Representative; Ericka Brown, Credentialing Supervisor; Katherine Hoffman, Policy Analyst; Joyce Roper, Assistant Attorney General (AAG)

Others Present
Melissa Johnson, Lobbyist, Washington Speech-Language-Hearing Association

On May 18, 2018, the Board of Hearing and Speech met in Tumwater at the Department of Health, Town Center Two, 111 Israel Road S.E., Room 158, Tumwater, WA 98501. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the meeting agenda was emailed to the Hearing and Speech listserv and posted on the Hearing and Speech website.

OPEN SESSION – 9 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER – Hal Hunsaker, Chair
   Mr. Hunsaker called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. Board and staff members introduced themselves.

   1.1 Approval of the agenda
   A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Board members voted in favor of the motion.

   1.2 Approval of the February 2, 2018 meeting minutes
   The February 2, 2018 meeting minutes were amended to add Item 2.2.a – Licensing Statistics. A motion was made and seconded to approve the amended February 2, 2018 meeting minutes. Board members voted in favor of approving the February 2, 2018 meeting minutes as amended.
2. PROGRAM REPORT – Trina Crawford, Executive Director; Ericka Brown, Credentialing Supervisor; and Kim-Boi Shadduck, Program Manager

2.1 Credentialing statistics – Ericka Brown, credentialing supervisor, shared the following licensure statistics with the board:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Hearing Aid Specialist</th>
<th>Audiologist</th>
<th>SLP</th>
<th>SLPA (Certification)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Active Licenses</td>
<td>312</td>
<td>443</td>
<td>2,896</td>
<td>238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interim Permit</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.2 Hearing aid specialist practical examination update – statistics – Ms. Shadduck provided an update on the practical exam. Statistics on the exam were presented to the board. Ms. Shadduck said the exam has been administered once since the February 2, 2018 meeting. Ms. Shadduck reported that three candidates sat for the exam; two candidates took the entire exam and one candidate re-took one section of the exam. All candidates successfully passed.

The next exam is scheduled for June 29, 2018. Ms. Shadduck said proctor(s) are needed for the exam. Ms. Vega agreed to proctor the June 29, 2018 exam and Ms. Plotnick also agreed to proctor if another proctor is needed.

Remaining 2018 practical exam dates are as follows:
- September 28, 2018
- December 7, 2018

Practical exams are scheduled to be held in Tumwater.

2.3 Current budget update – Ms. Crawford updated board members on the 2017-2019 budget. She said the budget is in good shape at this time. She also said the program has paid the cost of administering the practical exam; however, the department is working on setting fees for the practical exam. An update on the budget and setting exam fees will be provided to the board at a future meeting.

2.4 Retreat with Board of Occupational Therapy – Board members were asked if they would be interested in participating in a collaborative training retreat with other boards. Ms. Crawford said the Occupational Therapy Practice Board was the first to be asked about this type of collaborative retreat. Ms. Crawford said the Board of Physical Therapy would also be invited to participate. Information on topics such as telehealth may be presented. Board members discussed and voiced an interest. Specific dates were discussed, and will be shared with the other boards to determine a mutually agreed upon date. Staff members will provide updated information to the board on a final date and location. Collaborative planning will begin with the other board(s) participating.
2.5 Dates for 2019 meetings and practical examinations - The board set the following meeting dates and locations for 2019:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting Date</th>
<th>Meeting Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 8, 2019</td>
<td>Kent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 3, 2019</td>
<td>Tumwater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 2, 2019</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 1, 2019</td>
<td>Kent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The board set the following practical exam dates and locations for 2019:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Practical Exam Date</th>
<th>Practical Exam Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 29, 2019</td>
<td>Tumwater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 28, 2019</td>
<td>Tumwater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 27, 2019</td>
<td>Tumwater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 6, 2019</td>
<td>Tumwater</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Updated meeting and practical exam information is on the Hearing and Speech webpage.

3. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR – Board members nominated and voted for chair and vice chair positions effective August 1, 2018 through July 31, 2019. Per RCW 18.35.150(4):
   “The chair shall rotate annually among the hearing instrument fitter/dispensers, speech-language pathologists, audiologists, and public members serving on the board.”

Because rotation of the professions is stated in the Hearing and Speech statute, a public member is next in rotation for the chair position.

The nomination for 2018-2019 chair was Courtenay Hendricks, public member. The board unanimously voted to elect Ms. Hendricks to serve as chair.

The nomination for 2018-2019 vice chair was Lisa Illich, audiologist. The board unanimously voted to elect Ms. Illich to serve as vice-chair.

Future rotations of board chair are as follows:

Audiologist – 2019-2020
Hearing Aid Specialist 2020-2021
Public Member – 2021-2022

4. ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL REPORT – Joyce Roper, AAG – Joyce Roper, AAG provided an update on the FDA allowing over-the-counter devices to the public. Ms. Roper said the over-the-counter assistive hearing devices-equipment were included in the FDA reauthorization act. The FDA has three years to adopt rules about this. Rules will address what the devices-equipment are to be called, labeling, etc. Rules about over-the-counter assistive hearing devices-equipment are scheduled to take effect in three years. Ms. Roper will continue looking into this and will provide updates to the board at future meetings.
5. **INTERNATIONAL HEARING SOCIETY UPDATE** – Richard Giles reported to the board about the Hearing Association Workgroup’s March meeting about the OTC devices labeling rules.

Mr. Giles attended a meeting of the Hearing Association Workgroup in March about over-the-counter devices and legislation. Attendees continued to discuss concerns about what the devices will be called and how the devices will be labeled. Mr. Giles said the FDA intends to create a new classification for the OTC hearing devices-equipment. Labeling and monitoring of devices after the sale of the device were also discussed. Mr. Giles said a white paper about this topic is scheduled to be released in June.

6. **REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO SUPERVISE INTERIM PERMIT HOLDERS** – The board reviewed and considered requests for approval to supervise interim permit holders per WAC 246-828-045 (1) (b).

   6.1 The board reviewed, discussed, and voted to approve a request for Lindsay Lillie to supervise interim permit holders per WAC 246-828-045 (1) (b).

   6.2 The board reviewed, discussed, and voted to approve a request for Lucinda Bowman to supervise interim permit holders per WAC 246-828-045 (1) (b).

   6.3 The board reviewed, discussed, and voted to approve a second request for Lindsay Lillie to supervise interim permit holders per WAC 246-828-045 (1) (b).

7. **AUDIOLOGIST LICENSING** – The board discussed cognitive screening for audiologists. The board also discussed scope of practice for audiology assistants.

   Dr. Vega said there has been a lot of discussion among professionals and at conferences about audiologists performing cognitive screenings. She said studies have been conducted showing a relationship between hearing loss and cognitive decline. Ms. Jackson said SLPs perform cognitive screenings and asked whether it was within an audiologist’s scope of practice. Board members discussed that there are several ways to perform a cognitive screening and that a screening is very different from a diagnosis. Ms. Illich asked whether this needed to be addressed in law, and if it was something that the professional association should look into. Several members will look into this further and contact their professional associations and will provide updates at a future meeting.

   Board members also discussed audiology assistants. Washington State doesn’t license audiology assistants. Ms. Roper said RCW 18.35.270 – Assistant ratios – Data collection gives the board the authority to collect data about the use of audiology assistants across practice settings and the level of education and training required. Ms. Crawford asked whether audiology assistants provide hands-on care to patients. Dr. Vega said her understanding is that assistants are used to work with the devices, such as, cleaning changing batteries, and other back office work. Dr. Vega volunteered to do further research and report her findings. Dr. Vega also said a course for audiology assistants had been developed by Nicole Kingham. Dr. Vega asked the board if it would like to invite Ms. Kingham to a future meeting to present information about the course. A motion was made, seconded and the board voted in favor of inviting Ms. Kingham to a future meeting to present information about the audiologist assistant course.
8. COMMITTEE WORK

8.1 Rules Committee
Members: Trice Konschuh, Public Member; Ann Plotnick, Hearing Aid Specialist; Rick Giles, Hearing Aid Specialist; Dr. Alison Vega, Audiologist; Roberta Jackson, SLP; Kelly Siebecke, SLPA

8.1.1 Committee members worked on updating WAC 246-828-020; 025; 040; 045; 04503; 04505; and 600.

8.1.2 Committee members will review a comment for the Washington Speech-Language Hearing Association about supervision of interim permit holders.

8.2 Education/Exam Committee
Members: Courtenay Hendricks, Public Member; Hal Hunsaker, SLP; Dr. Alison Vega, Audiologist; Henry Ou, M.D; Roberta Jackson, SLP

8.2.1 There were no additional agenda items referred for committee review.

8.2.2 Committee members reviewed the education curriculum of a foreign-trained applicant from Bangalore University India to determine whether the education is substantially equivalent to the SLPA education requirements per RCW 18.35.040 (3).

8.2.3 Committee members reviewed the education curriculum of a foreign-trained applicant from Israel to determine whether the education is substantially equivalent to the audiologist education requirements per RCW 18.35.040 (2).

8.2.4 Committee members reviewed the education curriculum of a SLPA applicant from University of Texas and Northern Arizona University for multidisciplinary studies to determine whether the education meets the SLPA education requirements per RCW 18.35.040 (3).

8.2.5 Committee members reviewed the education curriculum of a foreign-trained applicant from Naseema Institute of Speech and Hearing in India to determine whether the education is substantially equivalent to the SLP education requirements per RCW 18.35.040 (2).

8.3 Disciplinary Committee
Members: Ann Plotnick, Hearing Aid Specialist; Hal Hunsaker, SLP; Trice Konschuh, Public Member; Lisa Illich, Audiologist

8.4 Public Relations Committee
Members: Courtenay Hendricks, Public Member; Hal Hunsaker, SLP; Henry Ou, M.D.

8.4.1 There were no additional agenda items referred for committee review.

8.4.2 Committee members reviewed a request for lists and labels from the International Hearing Society.

8.4.3 Committee members reviewed a request for lists and labels from Audiology Practice Standards Organization.

8.4.4 Committee members reviewed a request for lists and labels from Therapy Management Corporation.

8.5 Site-Review Committee for Hearing Aid Specialist Programs
Members: Ann Plotnick, Hearing Aid Specialist; Alison Vega, Audiologist; Courtenay Hendricks, Public Member; Rick Giles, Hearing Aid Specialist

8.5.1 There were no agenda items referred for committee review.
8.6 Telehealth Committee – Members: Hal Hunsaker, SLP; Courtenay Hendricks, Public Member; Roberta Jackson, SLP; Kelly Siebecke, SLPA

8.6.1 There were no agenda items referred for committee review.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS – Committee members reported their discussions and presented committee recommendations for board action.

Rules Committee
- The committee reviewed, discussed, and recommended the board vote in favor of the proposed changes to the following rules:
  - WAC 246-828-020
  - WAC 246-828-025
  - WAC 246-828-040
  - WAC 246-828-045, 04503, 04505
  - WAC 246-828-600

A motion was made that the board move forward with the proposed changes and that staff members move forward with the CR 102 to set a hearing date. The board voted in favor of the motion.

Education/Exam Committee
- The committee reviewed, discussed and recommended the board approve the education of the foreign-trained applicant from Bangalore University India as substantially equivalent to the SLPA education requirements per RCW 18.35.040 (3) for the SLPA profession. The board voted in favor of the committee’s recommendation.
- The committee reviewed, discussed and recommended the board approve the education of the foreign-trained applicant from Israel as substantially equivalent to the audiologist education requirements per RCW 18.35.040 (2) for the audiologist profession. The board voted in favor of the committee’s recommendation.
- The committee reviewed, discussed and recommended the board approve the education of a SLPA applicant from University of Texas and Northern Arizona University for multidisciplinary studies as equivalent to the SLPA education requirements per RCW 18.35.040 (3) for the SLPA profession. The board voted in favor of the committee’s recommendation.
- The committee reviewed, discussed and recommended the board approve the education of the foreign-trained applicant from Naseema Institute of Speech and Hearing in India as substantially equivalent to the SLP education requirements per RCW 18.35.040 (2) for the SLPA profession. The committee also recommended the board request the applicant provide the supervisor’s name on the acknowledgement of responsibility form. The board voted in favor of the committee’s recommendations.

Disciplinary Committee
- The committee did not provide a report.

Public Relations Committee
- The committee reviewed, discussed, and recommended the board approve a lists and labels request from International Hearing Society. The board voted to approve the lists and labels request from International Hearing Society.
• The committee reviewed, discussed, and recommended the board deny a lists and labels request from Audiology Practice Standards Organization. The board voted to deny the lists and labels request from Audiology Practice Standards Organization.
• The committee reviewed, discussed, and recommended the board deny a lists and labels request from Therapy Management Corp. The board voted to deny the lists and labels request from Therapy Management Corp.

Site-Review Committee for Hearing Aid Specialist Programs
• The committee did not provide a report as it did not meet.

Telehealth Committee
• The committee did not provide a report as it did not meet.

10. CONSENT AGENDA
There were no items added to the consent agenda for the board to review.

11. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS – The board discussed adding the following items to future meeting agendas:
• Update about cognitive screening – Alison Vega
• Audiology assistant information, other states that are credentialing – Kim-Boi Shadduck
• Update on FDA information about OTC devices – Joyce Roper, AAG
• Presentation – Washington Hearing Society
• Presentation – Nicole Kingham, Audiologist Assistant Program
• Collaborative training retreat update

12. OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
Melissa Johnson shared information about legislation about insurance and prior authorization requirements.

12. ADJOURNMENT
The meeting adjourned at 12:57 p.m.

Signature of File

Presented By: Kim-Boi Shadduck, Program Manager

Signature on File

Approved By: Hal Hunsaker, Chair

________________________________________________________________________________________
Date

________________________________________________________________________________________
Date